

## The Vision

*"To develop and maintain a safe, efficient, and environmentally compatible transportation system that provides convenient choices for accessing destinations throughout the Greensboro Metropolitan Area and the Triad, including well-integrated, connected public transportation, pedestrian, and bicycle networks."*

## Round 2 Public Involvement

- Included 4 workshops throughout the study area
- Small Group Discussions with workshop participants
- Questionnaire
- Interviews with elected officials and freight representatives
- A phone survey of 1,200+ residents within the study area

*A summary report that documents all of the data collected during the second round of public involvement is available on the project website.*



## Technical Analysis

Extensive analysis was conducted which compared the performance characteristics of three distinct scenarios:

- Existing and Committed Projects (those projects that are already funded)
- Highway Focus (represents continued expansion of the highway system only)
- Alternative Focus (redirected emphasis on alternate modes including bike, pedestrian, and public transit)

*The combination of technical analysis and public comments contributed to the development of a recommended plan.*

## Adoption Process

The Greensboro Urban Area MPO will hold a pre-adoption public review meeting on **July 29, 2004**.

The MPO's Transportation Advisory Committee will consider the plan for adoption on **August 26, 2004**.

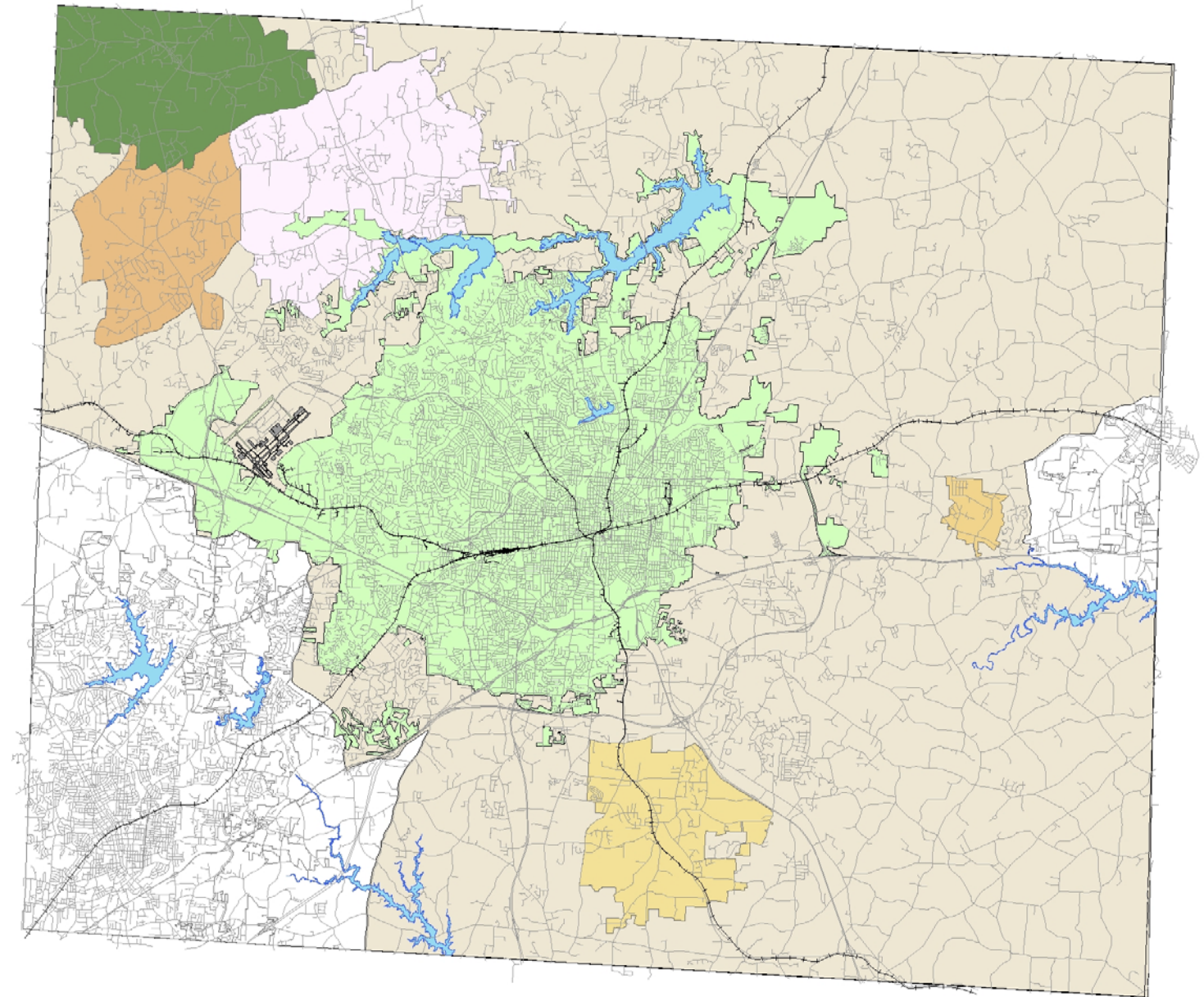


***Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization***

# Greensboro Urban Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan



**3<sup>rd</sup> Newsletter**



**June 2004**



# Greensboro Urban Area Transportation Plan

## Project Update

Work on the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) has progressed substantially since the February 2004 public workshops. Key elements of the plan are now ready for presentation and review. These elements were developed in light of findings from extensive community involvement efforts, a comprehensive technical analysis, and a detailed review of existing transportation and community plans. The third round of public workshops offer you the opportunity to learn more about recommended future highway expansion, public transportation services, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The Proposed Thoroughfare Plan, the Working Draft Collector Street Plan, and a range of recommended transportation policies will also be presented. Your comments will help to ensure that significant needs have been addressed, and that public concerns on various issues are clearly understood.

## Public Involvement Summary

The second round of public involvement included four workshops held in downtown Greensboro, eastern Guilford County, Summerfield, and Pleasant Garden. Over 80 participants attended these meetings. Small group discussions and questionnaires provided participants a convenient way to react to information provided by the planning team and to share their priorities, references, and concerns regarding the plan. The project team also interviewed elected officials from Guilford County, the City of Greensboro, and area towns. These interviews allowed the project team to learn more about the vision of each of these areas and to get feedback on specific transportation proposals. Summary findings from the workshops and interviews are available on the MPO website, as well as a full compilation of round two input. Round two provided a fine level of detailed input on specific needs and issues. In addition, round two tended to confirm the key themes that emerged through the first round of public workshops and the 1,200 household

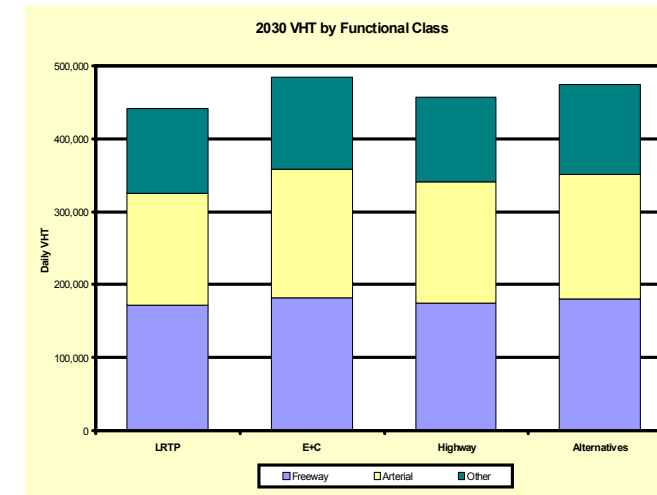
telephone survey. These themes include the need for a balanced transportation system that provides a range of convenient transportation choices, along with strong support for:

- Strategic investment in the highway system;
- Expanded pedestrian and bicycle facility networks; and
- Enhanced and expanded public transportation services.

## Analysis

The LRTP effort has involved extensive analysis of existing and future travel conditions and choices. The February workshops included a review of an important element of this work and related to what could be expected to occur by the year 2030 under three different alternative future transportation investment scenarios. The *Existing and Committed* (E+C) scenario evaluated the performance of projects with funding or other public commitments. The *Highway Focus* scenario built on the E+C by adding substantial additional highway improvements targeted to areas where significant future congestion is expected, while holding public transportation and pedestrian and bicycle accommodations to the E+C level. The *Alternative Focus* scenario assumed a major expansion of local public transportation, implementation of regional rapid transit, improved local street connectivity, and technology improvements, as well as expanded bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, but no major expansion of roadway capacity beyond the E+C.

The results of this analysis showed that a balanced investment plan will be key to providing the transportation facilities, services, and choices needed for the area's future. The proposed Long Range Transportation Plan has been developed with this goal in mind. Interestingly enough, the proposed plan outperforms the Highway Focus on one key indicator of future traffic conditions: vehicle hours traveled. Analysis for the 2030 plan also supported the development of the Proposed Thoroughfare Plan and the Draft Collector Street Plan.



## What's Next?

The draft LRTP elements will be refined and incorporated into the draft LRTP document following the third round of public involvement. The LRTP will then be released for public review and comment on the MPO website, and at a range of public locations or sites throughout the planning area. The document will include:

- Proposed future transportation projects and investment strategies.

- An updated thoroughfare plan and a collector street plan.
- Identification of transportation investments requiring further study or new revenue sources.
- Transportation policy findings and recommendations.
- Supporting financial analysis and a demonstration of conformity to air quality requirements.
- Maps and summaries of public involvement and technical analysis.

The public review period will begin on July 12 and end on August 11. It will include a final public review meeting in Greensboro on July 29 at 6 pm in the City Council Chambers. Look for more information on the website or sign up to receive additional information directly! Please share your thoughts regarding the plan at:

[www.greensboro-nc.gov/LRTP](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/LRTP)

